

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Final Office Action dated July 9, 2008.

Claims 1, 4, 7-8, 16, 19, 37-38 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clapper et al. (U.S. 6,822,698), in view of Kolde (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0175944). Claims 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clapper et al. (U.S. 6,822,698), in view of Kolde (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0175944), in further view of Shutaro et al. (EP 1096453). Claim 12 is are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clapper et al. (U.S. 6,822,698), in view of Kolde (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0175944), in further view of Kojima et al. (U.S. 6,236,398). Claims 13-14, 17, 24, 39 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clapper et al. (U.S. 6,822,698), in view of Kolde (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0175944), in further view of Miller (U.S. 6,597,358). Claim 22 is are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clapper et al. (U.S. 6,822,698), in view of Kolde (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0175944), in further view of Kwon et al. (U.S. 7,043,691).

Applicant has amended the independent claims to further clarify that the claimed invention displays a three-dimensional animation of the button being depressed on the three-dimensional representation of the physical universal remote control. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 USC 103 rejection over Clapper in view of Kolde. The Examiner concedes that Clapper does not expressly teach "updating said three-dimensional representation to display a three-dimensional animation of the button being pressed to indicate to the user that the command was received by the media center." The Examiner's 35 USC rejection relies upon Kolde to fulfill this element. However, Kolde does not teach or suggest a 3d animation that would satisfy the element missing in Clapper. First, Kolde never mentions a "3d animation." The example that Kolde provides of an animation for Figure 6 is to rotate and translate an isolated button icon 404 across a screen, as illustrated in Figure 6 of Kolde, which is reproduced below for the convenience of the Examiner. As can be seen in Figure 6 of Kolde, the animation of the button is two-dimensional in nature. That is, the icon has no depth. Moreover, the animation shows an isolated button icon being rotated and translated across the screen, as described in paragraph [0082]. The remote control itself is not represented on the screen.

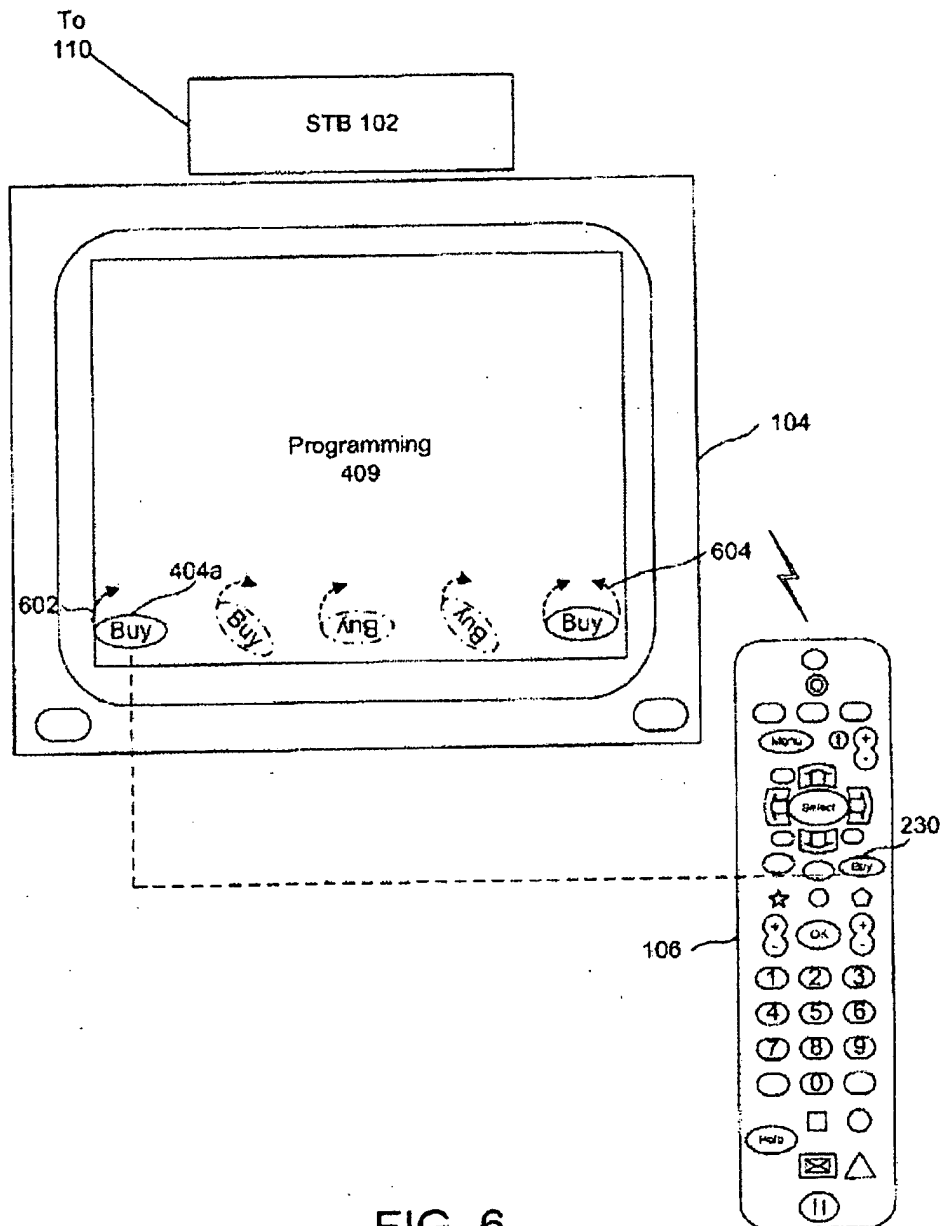


FIG. 6

Figure 6 of Kolde.

Figure 7 of Kolde also illustrates a two-dimensional animation. In the embodiment of Figure 7 the animation comprises "cyclically scaling" the button icon 404a. That is the button

icon 404a is cyclically enlarged/reduced in size. However, in order to increase the size of the button icon it is displayed apart from the representation of the remote control. As can be clearly seen by the double sided arrow in Figure 7, this scaling operation requires the button icon 404a to be translated to the right from the representation of the remote control. That is, the scaled button 404a is spaced apart from the image of the remote control.

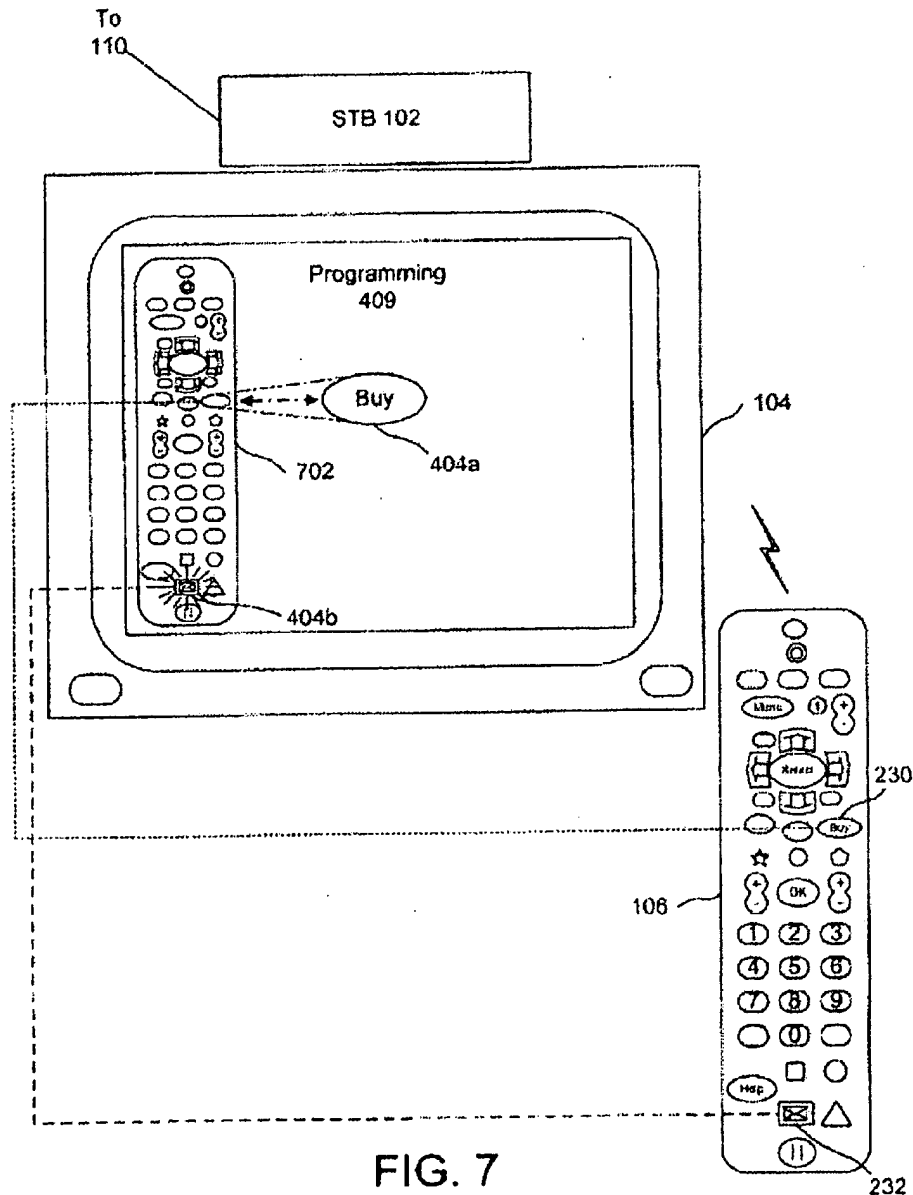


FIG. 7

Figure 7 of Kolde.

It is respectfully submitted that the 35 USC 103 rejection is improper when Kolde is properly interpreted. As clearly described and illustrated, the animation of Kolde is not three-dimensional but instead comprises two-dimensional rotation, translation, and scaling. As such, the combination fails to teach or suggest all of the elements of the claimed invention. Moreover, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to make the combination. Clapper displays a representation of a remote control on the display screen in which the button (on the remote control representation) is highlighted. When Kolde performs an animation of a button, Kolde displays the button icon separately from the remote control to emphasize it – in Figure 6, it translates and rotates the button icon around on the screen; in Figure 7 it displays an enlarged button icon off to the side from the remote control representation. The two techniques of emphasizing a button are thus incompatible.

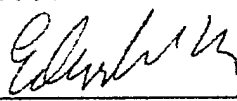
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that no further impediments exist to the allowance of this application and, therefore, requests an indication of allowability. However, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned if any questions or comments arise.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

Dated: August 21, 2008

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